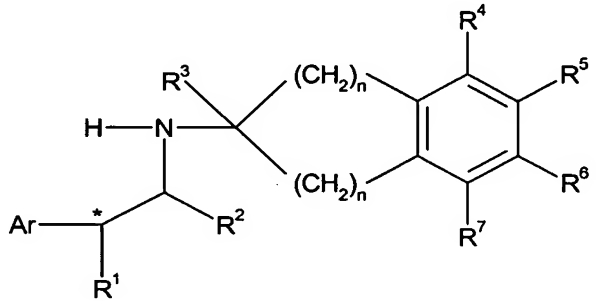
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the claims:

1-16.(Cancelled).

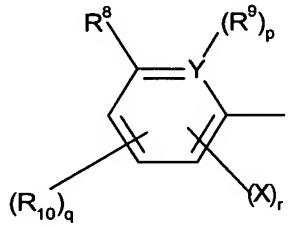
17.(Previously presented) A compound of formula



I

in free or salt or solvate form, where

Ar is a group of formula



II

R^1 is hydrogen, hydroxy, or alkoxy,

R^2 and R^3 are each independently hydrogen or alkyl,

R^4, R^5, R^6 and R^7 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, alkoxy, aryl, alkyl, alkyl substituted by one or more halogen atoms or one or more hydroxy or alkoxy groups, alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, alkenyl, trialkylsilyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, or -$CONR^{11}R^{12}$, where R^{11} and R^{12} are each independently hydrogen or alkyl, or R^4 and R^5, R^5 and R^6, or R^6 and R^7 together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached denote a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring,

R^8 is halogen, $-OR^{13}$, $-CH_2OR^{13}$ or $-NHR^{13}$ where R^{13} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, $-COR^{14}$, where R^{14} is hydrogen, $-N(R^{15})R^{16}$, alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or aryl and R^{15} and R^{16} are each independently hydrogen, alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or R^{13} is $-C(=NH)R^{17}$, $-SOR^{17}$ or $-SO_2R^{17}$ where R^{17} is alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, and R^9 is hydrogen, or R^8 is $-NHR^{18}$ where -

NHR^{18} and R^9, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, denote a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle,

R^{10} is $-OR^{19}$ or $-NHR^{19}$ where R^{19} is hydrogen, alkyl, alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or $-COR^{20}$, where R^{20} is $-N(R^{21})R^{22}$, alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms, or aryl, and R^{21} and R^{22} are each independently hydrogen, alkyl or alkyl interrupted by one or more hetero atoms,

B3

X is halogen or halomethyl or alkyl,

Y is carbon or nitrogen,

n is 1 or 2,

p is zero when Y is nitrogen or 1 when Y is carbon,

q and r are each zero or 1, the sum of q+r is 1 or 2; and

the carbon atom marked with an asterisk* has the R or S configuration, or a mixture thereof, when R^1 is hydroxy or alkoxy.

18.(Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula II in which Y is carbon,

R^8 is $-NHR^{18}$ and $-NHR^{18}$ and R^9 together denote

a group of formula $-NH-CO-R^{23}-$ where R^{23} is an alkylene, alkenylene or alkyleneoxy group,

a group of formula $-NH-SO_2-R^{24}-$ where R^{24} is an alkyleneoxy group,

a group of formula $-NH-R^{25}(COOR^{26})-$ where R^{25} is an alkylene or alkenylene group and R^{26} is alkyl, or

a group of formula -NH-CO-NH- or -NH-CO-S-,

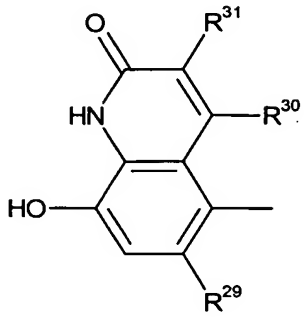
R^{10} is $-OR^{19}$, where R^{19} is as defined in claim 1,

X is alkyl,

p is 1, q is 1 and r is zero or 1.

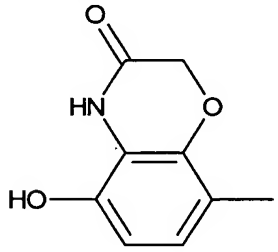
19.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 18, in which Ar is a group of formula III, IV, V, VI or VII:

B3

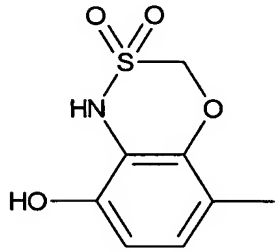


III

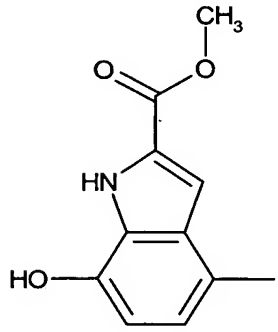
in which R^{29}, R^{30} and R^{31} are each independently hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl



IV

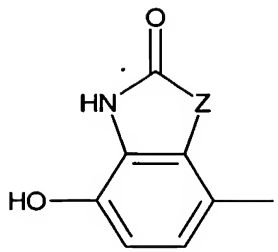


V



VI

B3



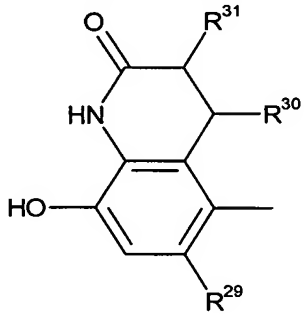
VII

in which z is -O-, -NH- or -S-,

R^1 is hydroxy, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen, and R^4 and R^7 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy, and either R^5 and R^6 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, or R^5 and R^6 together denote $-(CH_2)_4-$ or $-O(CH_2)_2O-$.

20.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 19, in which the carbon atom in formula I marked with an asterisk * has the R configuration.

21.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula



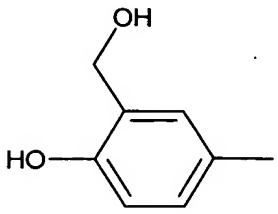
IIIa

where R^{29}, R^{30} and R^{31} are each independently hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl.

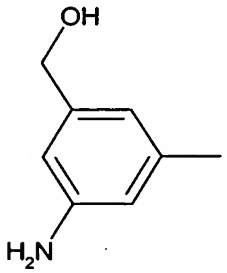
22.(Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula II in which Y is carbon, R^8 is $-CH_2OR^{13}$ where R^{13} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, R^9 is hydrogen, R^{10} is $-OR^{19}$ where R^{19} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or $-COR^{20}$ where R^{20} is C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_6-C_{10}-aryl or $-N(R^{21})R^{22}$ where R^{21} and R^{22} are each independently hydrogen or C_1-C_4-alkyl, p and q are each 1 and r is zero; or a group of formula II in which Y is nitrogen, R^8 is $-CH_2OR^{13}$ where R^{13} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, R^{10} is $-OR^{19}$ where R^{19} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, p and r are zero and q is 1.

23.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 22, in which Ar is a group of formula XII, XIII or XIV

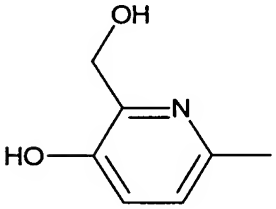
B3



XII



XIII

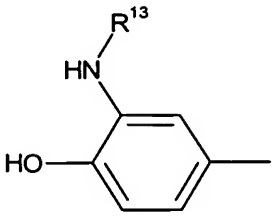


XIV

R^1 is hydroxy, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen, R^4 and R^7 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy, and either R^5 and R^6 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, or R^5 and R^6 together denote $-(CH_2)_4-$ or $-O(CH_2)_2O-$.

24.(Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula II in which Y is carbon, R^8 is $-NHR^{13}$ where R^{13} is hydrogen, C_1-C_{10}-alkyl, C_1-C_{10}-alkyl interrupted by 1 to 3 hetero atoms, $-COR^{14}$ where R^{14} is hydrogen, C_1-C_{10}-alkyl or C_1-C_{10}-alkyl interrupted by 1 to 3 hetero atoms, or R^{13} is $-C(=NH)R^{17}$, $-SOR^{17}$ or $-SO_2R^{17}$ where R^{17} is C_1-C_{10}-alkyl or C_1-C_{10}-alkyl interrupted by 1 to 3 hetero atoms, R^9 is hydrogen, R^{10} is $-OR^{18}$ where R^{18} is hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, p and q are each 1 and r is zero.

25.(Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 24, in which Ar is a group of formula XV



XV

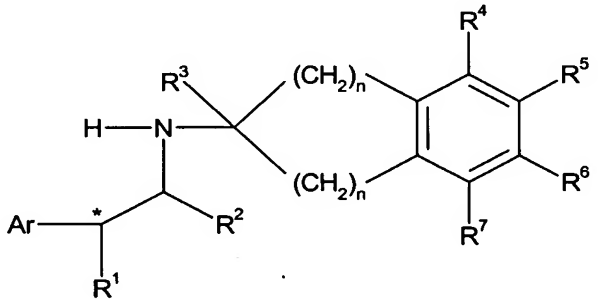
where R^{13} is as defined in claim 24, R^1 is hydroxy, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen, R^4 and R^7 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy, and either R^5 and R^6 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alky, C_1-C_4-alkoxy or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, or R^5 and R^6 together denote $-(CH_2)_4-$ or $-O(CH_2)_2O-$.

26.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 17, in which R4, R5, R6 and R7 are each hydrogen or are such that the benzene ring to which they are attached is symmetrically substituted.

27.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 17, in which Ar is a group of formula III, IV, V, XII or XV, R^1 is hydroxy, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen, R^4 and R^7 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl or C_1-C_4-alkoxy, and either R^5 and R^6 are identical and are each hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy or C_1-C_4-alkoxy-C_1-C_4-alkyl, or R^5 and R^6 together denote $-(CH_2)_4-$ or $-O(CH_2)_2O-$, in free or salt or solvate form.

28.(Previously presented) A compound according to claim 27, in which the carbon atom in formula I marked with an asterisk * has the R configuration.

29.(Currently amended) A compound of formula

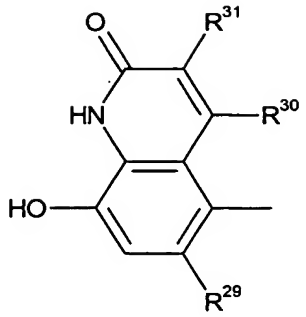


I

in free or salt or solvate form,

(A) wherein Ar is a group of formula

B3



III

in which R^{29}, R^{30} and R^{31} are each H, R^1 is OH, R^2 and R^3 are each H and

(i) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each CH_3O- and R^5 and R^6 are each H; or

(ii) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 are each CH_3CH_2-; or

(iii) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 are each CH_3-; or

(iv) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each CH_3CH_2- and R^5 and R^6 are each H; or

(v) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 together denote $-(CH_2)_4-$; or

(vi) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 together denote $-O(CH_2)_2O-$; or

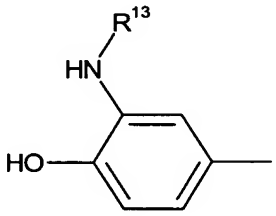
(vii) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 are each $CH_3(CH_2)_3$-; or

(viii) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 are each $CH_3(CH_2)_2$-; or

(ix) n is 2, R^4, R^5, R^6 and R^7 are each H; or

(x) n is 1, and R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 are each CH_3OCH_2-; or

(B) wherein Ar is a group of formula



XV

in which R^{13} is H, R^1 is OH, R^2 and R^3 are each H, R^4 and R^7 are each H and R^5 and R^6 are each H and n is 1; or

(C) which is a compound selected from

8-hydroxy-5-[1-hydroxy-2-(indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one [,] ;

5-[2-(5,6-dimethoxy-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one [,] ;

5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-3-methyl-1H-quinolin-2-one[,] ;

5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-methoxymethoxy-6-methyl-1H-quinolin-2-one[,] ;

B3

5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-6-methyl-1H-quinolin-2-one[,] ;

8-hydroxy-5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-3,4-dihydro-1H-quinolin- 2-one[,] ;

N-{2-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2,5,6-trimethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-phenyl}-formamide[,] ;

5-[(R)-2-(5,6-diethyl-2-methyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one[,] ;

(S)-5-[2-(~~4,7~~ 5,6 -diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one-hydrochloride[,];

5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-5H-benzocyclohepten-7-ylamino)-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one hydrochloride[,];

(R)-5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one maleate[,];

(R)-5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one hydrochloride[,];

N-{5-[(R)-2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-2-hydroxy-phenyl}-formamide[,];

4-[(R)-2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-2-dimethylamino-phenol hydrochloride[,];

4-[(R)-2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-2-methylamino-phenol hydrochloride[,];

N-{5-[2-(5 ,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-2-hydroxy-phenyl}-methanesulfonamide hydrochloride) [,];

(R)-8-hydroxy-5-[(S)-1-hydroxy-2-(4,5,6,7-tetramethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one[,];

8-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2-methyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one[,];

5-[2-(5,6-diethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one[,];

8-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2-methyl-2,3,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-1H-cyclopenta[b]naphthalen-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-1H-quinolin-2-one[,];

5-[(S)-2-(2,3,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-1H-cyclopenta[b]naphthalen-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-8-hydroxy-1H-quinolin-2-one[,];

N-{2-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2-methyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-phenyl}-methanesulfonamide)[,];

ethanesulfonic acid {2-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2-methyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-phenyl}-amide[,];

propane-1-sulfonic acid {2-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2-methyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-phenyl}-amide[,];

B3

N-{5-[2-(2-ethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-1-hydroxy-ethyl]-2-hydroxy-phenyl}-methanesulfonamide[,] ; or

N-{2-hydroxy-5-[(R)-1-hydroxy-2-(2,5,6-trimethyl-indan-2-ylamino)-ethyl]-phenyl}-methanesulfonamide.

30.(Withdrawn) A compound according to claim 17 in combination with a steroid, a dopamine receptor agonist or an anticholinergic or antimuscarinic agent.

31.(Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 17, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

32.(Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 28, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

33.(Previously presented) A method for the treatment of a condition which is prevented or alleviated by activation of the β2-adrenoreceptor which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 17.

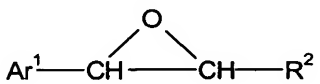
34.(Previously presented) A method for the treatment of an obstructive or inflammatory airways disease which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 17.

35.(Previously presented) A method for the treatment of obstructive or inflammatory airways disease which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 29.

36.(Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I in free or salt or solvate form comprising:

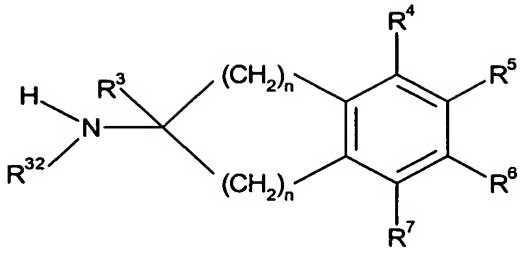
(a) for the preparation of a compound where R1 is hydroxy, either

(i) reacting a compound of formula



XVI

with a compound of formula

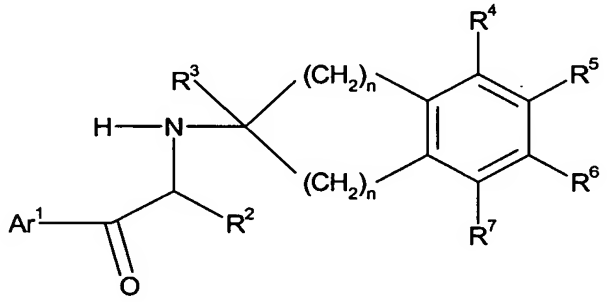


XVII

B3

where Ar^1 is Ar as defined in claim 17 or a protected form thereof, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and n are as defined in claim 17 and R^{32} is hydrogen or an amine-protective group, or

(ii) reducing a compound of formula



XVIII

where Ar^1 is Ar as defined in claim 17 or a protected form thereof, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 are as defined in claim 17, to convert the indicated keto group into -CH(OH)-; or

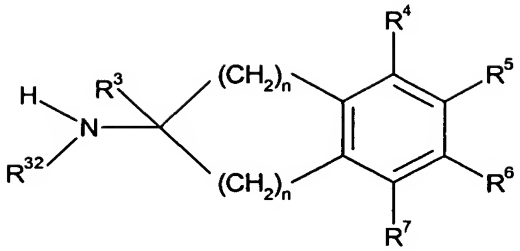
(b) for the preparation of a compound where R^1 is hydrogen, reducing a corresponding compound of formula I where R^1 is hydroxy; or

(c) for the preparation of a compound of formula I where R^1 is alkoxy, either (i) O-alkylating a corresponding compound of formula I where R^1 is hydroxy or (ii) reacting a corresponding compound having a leaving moiety instead of R^1 with an alcohol of formula R^1H where R^1 is alkoxy;

and, optionally, converting a resultant compound of formula I in protected form into a corresponding compound in unprotected form;

and recovering the resultant compound of formula I in free or salt or solvate form.

37.(Withdrawn) A compound of formula XVII



XVII

B3

where R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and n are as defined in claim 17, where R^4, R^5, R^6 and R^7 are such that the benzene ring to which they are attached is symmetrically substituted, and R^{32} is hydrogen or an amine-protective group, with the exception of compounds where R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^{32} are each hydrogen, where R^4 and R^7 are methyl and methoxy when R^5, R^6 and R^{32} are each hydrogen, and where R^4, R^7 and R^{32} are hydrogen when R^5 and R^6 are each hydroxy, fluorine or chlorine.

38. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 17 and a steroid, a dopamine receptor agonist or an anticholinergic or antimuscarinic agent.

39. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 29 and a steroid, a dopamine receptor agonist or an anticholinergic or antimuscarinic agent.

40. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 29 and a steroid selected from the group consisting of budesonide, fluticasone and mometasone, or an anticholinergic or antimuscarinic agent selected from the group consisting of ipratropium bromide, oxitropium bromide and tiotropium bromide.